



**THE HON SUSSAN LEY MP
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FARRER**

12 December 2025

The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

via email: dlo@pm.gov.au

~~Dear Prime Minister~~

Dear Prime Minister

I write in relation to the expenses scandal engulfing the Albanese Government, caused by multiple instances of inappropriate expenditure of public money by Minister Anika Wells. The Minister's expenditure has brought the Albanese Government into disrepute and undermined public trust in the parliament.

It is remarkable that more than a week after this scandal began, the Minister has been unable to express any contrition, and neither you nor your ministers have accepted that this spending has been out of step with community expectations.

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) Review into the Minister must establish whether any breach of the legislative framework governing parliamentarian's entitlements has occurred. Under the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*, a member must not claim expenses unless they are incurred for the "dominant purpose" of conducting their "parliamentary business".

That investigation is appropriate, but not sufficient. I am requesting that you urgently refer this matter to the Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for investigation, seeking advice on whether your Cabinet Minister has breached the Ministerial Code of Conduct.

I remind you that the Code mandates ministers must observe standards of behaviour "worthy of the Australian people", act in a manner "consistent with the highest ethical standards", not put public resources "to wasteful or extravagant use", with "due economy" to be observed "at all times".

If you believe the Minister *has not* contravened the Code, I invite you to say so publicly.

If you are unable to offer this public assurance, the Minister's position is untenable and she must be stood down.

Prime Minister, credentialed journalists and experienced commentators have observed that since its significant victory in May, many of the Albanese Government's decisions and public statements have shown arrogance. The transparency, integrity and accountability that the Australian people were promised has been missing.

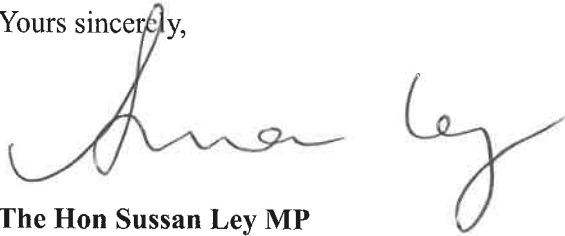
Australians are losing faith in this government because of your failure to demonstrate the leadership required in the handling of the Wells scandal.

The claim that a Prime Minister 'does not write the rules' for parliamentary entitlements is not correct.

I am seeking a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss, on a bipartisan basis, how your Ministerial Code of Conduct can properly be enforced, as well as how public trust in the broader parliamentary system can be strengthened, so community expectations are being met.

I look forward to your prompt response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sussan Ley', written in a cursive style.

The Hon Sussan Ley MP
Leader of the Opposition
Federal Member for Farrer